

Appl. No. 10/605,271
Amdt. dated November 26, 2004
Reply to Office action of September 30, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 5 1 (currently amended): A method of processing color image data for printing on a color
ink jet printer, the method comprising:
reading color image data from a ~~continuous-tone~~ source image, the ~~continuous-tone~~
source image containing color image data of at least a first color area and a
second color area;
10 calculating a first density of pixels of the first color, calculating a second density of
pixels of the second color, and comparing the first density to the second
density;
identifying a border region between the first color area and the second color area
only if the first density and the second density match predetermined criteria
15 which necessitates altering pixels along the border;
performing a pixel altering function to alter pixels of the ~~continuous-tone~~ source
image along the border region between the first color area and the second color
area;
converting the ~~continuous-tone~~ source image into a plurality of halftone images after
20 performing the pixel altering function; and
printing the halftone images using ink of the first and second colors according to the
first and second color areas.
- 25 2 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the first color ink and the second color ink
are two different types of ink.
- 3 (original): The method of claim 2 wherein the first color ink is a pigment-based ink and

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the second color ink is a dye-based ink.

4 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the first color is black and the second color is
5 selected from a group consisting of cyan, magenta, yellow, light cyan, light magenta,
orange, and green.

5 (original): The method of claim 4 wherein the first color ink is a pigmentbased ink and
10 the second color ink is a dye-based ink.

6 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the pixel altering function comprises
replacing pixels of the first color with pixels of another color.

7 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the pixel altering function comprises
15 replacing pixels of the second color with pixels of another color.

8 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the pixel altering function comprises
reducing a color saturation value for pixels of the first color.

20 9 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the pixel altering function comprises
reducing a color saturation value for pixels of the second color.

10-11 (cancelled).

25 12 (currently amended): The method of ~~claim 11~~ claim 1 wherein if the first density is
higher than the second density, the pixels along the border region are altered
according to a comparison result between the first density and a firstthreshold level.

13 (currently amended): The method of ~~claim 11~~ claim 1 wherein if the second density is

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higher than the first density, the pixels along the border region are altered according to a comparison result between the first density and a second threshold level.

- 5 14 (new): A method of processing color image data for printing on a color ink jet printer, the method comprising:
- reading color image data from a continuous tone source image, the continuous tone source image containing color image data of at least a first color area and a second color area;
- 10 calculating a first density of pixels of the first color, calculating a second density of pixels of the second color, and comparing the first density to the second density;
- identifying a border region between the first color area and the second color area only if the first density and the second density match predetermined criteria
- 15 which necessitates altering pixels along the border;
- performing a pixel altering function to alter pixels of the continuous tone source image along the border region between the first color area and the second color area;
- converting the continuous tone source image into a plurality of halftone images after
- 20 performing the pixel altering function; and
- printing the halftone images using ink of the first and second colors according to the first and second color areas.
- 15 (new): The method of claim 14 wherein the first color ink and the second color ink are
- 25 two different types of ink.
- 16 (new): The method of claim 15 wherein the first color ink is a pigment-based ink and the second color ink is a dye-based ink.

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- 17 (new): The method of claim 14 wherein the first color is black and the second color is selected from a group consisting of cyan, magenta, yellow, light cyan, light magenta, orange, and green.
- 5
- 18 (new): The method of claim 17 wherein the first color ink is a pigment-based ink and the second color ink is a dye-based ink.
- 19 (new): The method of claim 14 wherein the pixel altering function comprises replacing
- 10 pixels of the first color with pixels of another color.
- 20 (new): The method of claim 14 wherein the pixel altering function comprises replacing pixels of the second color with pixels of another color.
- 15 21 (new): The method of claim 14 wherein the pixel altering function comprises reducing a color saturation value for pixels of the first color.
- 22 (new): The method of claim 14 wherein the pixel altering function comprises reducing a color saturation value for pixels of the second color.
- 20
- 23 (new): The method of claim 14 wherein if the first density is higher than the second density, the pixels along the border region are altered according to a comparison result between the first density and a first threshold level.
- 25 24 (new): The method of claim 14 wherein if the second density is higher than the first density, the pixels along the border region are altered according to a comparison result between the first density and a second threshold level.